

Will Rogers: I Never Met a Farmer I Didn't Like

Randall Reeder

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Randall Reeder : Will Rogers: I Never Met a Farmer I Didn't Like before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Will Rogers: I Never Met a Farmer I Didn't Like:

"This is a superb collection of Will Rogers' many words of agriculturally-related wit and wisdom," Steve Gragert, Director of the Will Rogers Museum in Claremore, OK. Jennifer Rogers-Etcheverry, Will's great-granddaughter, adds, "Being married to a farmer I truly appreciate the quotes and stories in this book. These inspirational words are just as true today as they were when Will Rogers said them himself." "You can't help but smile as you read through Will Rogers' wise cracks woven with wisdom. It is the perfect gift for all of us with deep roots in agriculture," Charlene Finck, Farm Journal Editor. The book is chronological, from 1923 to 1935, and includes a wide range of topics including: relief for the farmer, cattlemen, poor soil, tenant farmers, Dust Bowl, Farm Bill, horses, hogs, crop rotation, veterinarians, mules, sheep, big ranches, tractors, combines, co-ops, mortgages, Secretary of Agriculture, and optimism. A bonus section is "So God Made a Farmer", the inspiring words by Paul Harvey, another famous Oklahoman. Will Rogers (1879-1935) was the most popular and best known American in the first third of the 20th century. He was a cowboy, a movie star, a writer, a professional speaker, a comedian, a philosopher, and a world figure. He was one-quarter Cherokee Indian, born and raised on a large ranch in Indian Territory near what is now Oologah, Oklahoma. Humor was his tool. "I joked about every prominent man of my time," he said, "but I never met a man I didn't like." He delivered common horse sense, telling the truth in simple words that everyone could understand.

He was a world traveler but never forgot his down home roots. Will Rogers appeared on radio through the 1920s and was on somewhat regularly in the 1930s. He was the first big time radio commentator (15 minutes a week, not 3 hours a day). His newspaper columns and radio broadcasts are the main source of quotes in this book. His wit and wisdom remain timely today.